

[4th March 1927]

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“I suppose so, Sir.”

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB:—“Are they not drenched in the unholy climate of those islands?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“They have got accommodation there.”

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB:—“Is it a fact that the Mappillas and their children are asked to build houses in the Andamans?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“I do not think so.”

Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA ROWTHER:—“With reference to the answer to clause (c), will the hon. the Home Member kindly get further report and place it on the table of the House?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“I shall consider the question.”

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB:—“With reference to the answer to a supplementary question ‘I suppose so’, may I ask if, as a matter of fact, these people got houses as soon as they reached the Andamans? Was no accommodation made to receive them properly there?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“I should like to have notice of the question.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“May I ask the hon. Member to realize the value of his words, and answer whether as the Home Member of the Madras Government responsible for persisting in this scheme, in spite of the resolution passed by this House, he satisfied himself before sending 399 unfortunate men, women and children to the Andamans, that there was sufficient and adequate accommodation for them, or whether without satisfying himself and without having any information on the matter he can simply say ‘I shall make enquiries’?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“The Government were satisfied that there was enough accommodation. Since an hon. Member wanted some more information, I said that I would consider the question of getting further information.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—“May I ask the hon. Home Member whether he made no attempts to interview the prisoners when they were taken to Andamans, when they were in Madras?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“No, Sir.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—“Why?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“There was no occasion.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“May I ask the hon. the Home Member why there was no occasion to interview these men, when the opinion of this Council was fairly unanimous that the scheme should be abandoned, and whether he did not consider it as part of his duty, for which he is paid handsomely, to go

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The hon. Dr. P. SUBBABAYAN :—“ As the hon. Member does not give an idea of what he meant, I am not in a position now to give any answer.”

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“ If there is any defect in the question, I think the authorities should have written to the Member instead of waiting for three months and giving information relating to Madura.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member may give notice of the question.”

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“ I give notice now.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member has to give notice of the question in writing to the office.”

Local Boards

Fines imposed on subordinates by District Board Presidents.

* 234 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) if there is any limit for the amount of fines to be imposed on the subordinates by the presidents of district boards ; and

(b) whether it was brought to his notice that fines to the extent of Rs. 50 or so have been inflicted on subordinates drawing a salary of less than a hundred rupees by the President of Cuddapah District Board ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No.

Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO :—“ May I know whether the fines may be levied to any extent ? Is there no limit ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ As the rule stands at present, that is so.”

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know whether there is no proposal to fix a limit ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ There is no such proposal at present.”

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ Am I to understand therefore, as the rule stands at present, it is intended by the Government to leave the discretion to the presidents absolutely and unfettered for all time to come ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I shall have that matter considered.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ May I ask if there is any proposal to fix the limit up to which fines can be levied ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I want notice.”

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—“ Will the hon. the Minister consider the proposal to limit the fine to be imposed to a certain maximum ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I shall have that matter considered.”

Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO :—“ Will the hon. the Minister call for a statement of the amount of fines inflicted by district board presidents so that he may have control over it ? ”